PHILATELIC LINCOLNIANA: STAMPS
BICENTENNIAL
1809-2009

DRAWER 21

STAMPS: LINCOLN

71.2009.085.05607

Philately

Lincoln Bicentennial Stamp

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the

Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

71.2009.085.05607

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE®

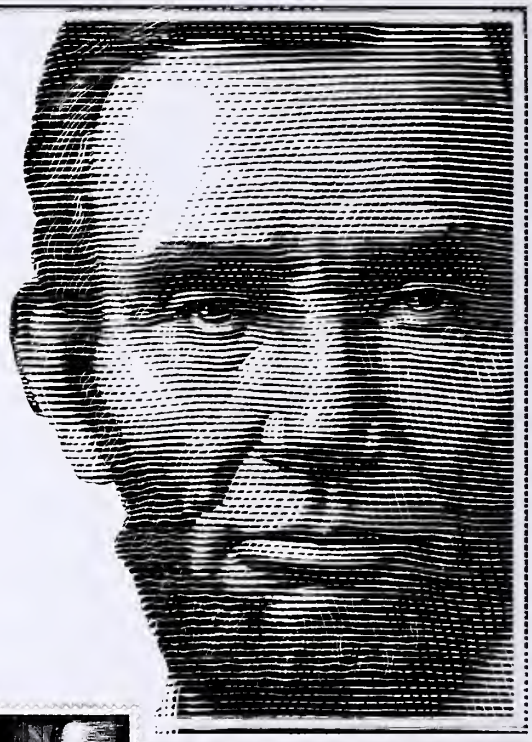
THE POSTMASTER GENERAL
cordially invites you to attend

The First-Day-of-Issue Ceremony
for the

Abraham Lincoln
Commemorative Stamps

Monday, February 9, 2009
10:00 a.m.

Old State Capitol Historic Site
Representative Hall
#1 Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, IL 62701



A. Lincoln

Oregon Statehood

The sesquicentennial of Oregon's statehood is dedicated on a First-Class stamp in Portland on Jan. 14. Oregon was officially welcomed as the 33rd state in the Union on Feb. 14, 1859. Today, Oregon boasts a diverse population, an active and innovative urban scene, and some of the most beautiful and fertile landscapes in the country.

Artist Gregory Manchess, of Beaverton, OR, was inspired by his own experiences along the Pacific coast to create the painting for the stamp. The result is an evocative piece that incorporates several elements of the coastline — trees, rocks, cliffs, and pounding surf — without illustrating a specific place.

"I wanted to make it an icon, an impression, of what the shoreline *feels* like when you look at the stamp," says the artist. The public is invited to attend the 11 a.m. stamp dedication ceremony at the World Forestry Center's Miller Hall, 4033 S.W. Canyon Rd., in Portland.

Edgar Allan Poe

The 200th anniversary of the birth of Edgar Allan Poe, one of America's most extraordinary poets and fiction writers, will be immortalized on postage. For more than a century and a half, Poe and his works have been praised by admirers around the world, including English poet laureate Alfred, Lord Tennyson, who dubbed Poe, "the literary glory of America." British author Sir Arthur Conan Doyle called him "the supreme original short story writer of all time."

The stamp portrait of Edgar Allan Poe is by award-winning artist Michael J. Deas of New Orleans, whose research over the years has made him well acquainted with Poe's appearance. In 1989, Deas published *The Portraits and Daguerreotypes of Edgar Allan Poe,* a comprehensive collection of images featuring authentic likenesses as well as derivative portraits.

The dedication ceremony will take place at 11 a.m. on Jan. 16, at the Library of Virginia in Richmond at 800 E. Broad St.

Abraham Lincoln

The 200th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's (1809-1865) birth will be recognized on four commemorative stamps Feb. 9, in Springfield, IL. The 10 a.m. dedication ceremony takes place at the Old State Capitol Historic Site, Representative Hall, #1 Old State Capitol Plaza, in Springfield.

The stamp art was created by Mark Summers, who is noted for his scratchboard technique, a style distinguished by a dense network of lines etched with exquisite precision. Each stamp features a different aspect of Lincoln's life. Summers worked under the art direction of Richard Sheaff of Scottsdale, AZ.

Rail-Splitter

The stamp showing Lincoln as a rail-splitter includes the earliest-known photograph of Lincoln, dated 1846, by N. H. Shepherd, and depicts Lincoln as a youth splitting a log for a rail fence on what was then the American frontier. When he was a candidate for president in 1860, the Republican Party used the image of Lincoln as a "rail-splitter" to enhance his appeal to the workingman.

Lawyer

The stamp featuring Lincoln as a lawyer includes a photograph of Lincoln, dated May 7, 1858, by Abraham Byers, and shows Lincoln in a courtroom in Illinois, the state where he was a practicing attorney for nearly 25 years.

Politician

The stamp of Lincoln as a politician includes a Feb. 27, 1860, photograph of Lincoln by Mathew Brady, and shows Lincoln debating Stephen A. Douglas during their 1858 campaign for a U.S. Senate seat from Illinois.

President

The stamp featuring Lincoln as president, includes a Nov. 8, 1863, photograph of Lincoln by Alexander Gardner, and depicts Lincoln conferring with generals Ulysses S. Grant and William T. Sherman toward the end of the Civil War. The depiction is based on "The Peacemakers" (1868), a painting by George P. A. Healy.

Miami University Stamped Card

On Feb. 17 in Oxford, OH, the Postal Service will commemorate Miami University's bicentennial by issuing a stamped card in the Historic Preservation series. The image on the card depicts MacCracken Hall, a residence hall located on the South Quad of Miami University's main campus in Oxford, OH. The stamped image on the card is a computer-generated illustration of MacCracken Hall created by artist Tom Engeman.

Civil Rights Pioneers

The public is welcome to attend the Feb. 21 National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Board Meeting in New York City, when the Postal Service immortalizes the courage, commitment and achievements of 12 civil rights leaders. The dedication ceremony will take place at 10:15 a.m. in the New York Hilton Hotel and Towers' Trianon Ballroom, 2nd Floor, 2335 Ave. of the Americas.

Art director Ethel Kessler and stamp designer Greg Berger, both of Bethesda, MD, chose to approach this project through photographic montage. Pairing two pioneers in each stamp was a way of intensifying the montage effect.